Basic information

2016/0383(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments	Procedure completed
EU/Chile Agreement: trade in organic products **Subject** 6.20.03 Bilateral economic and trade agreements and relations **Geographical area** Chile	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
INTA International Trade	RODRÍGUEZ-PIÑERO Inma (S&D)	23/01/2017
	Shadow rapporteur MATO Gabriel (PPE) MCCLARKIN Emma (ECR) CHARANZOVÁ Dita (ALDE) FORENZA Eleonora (GUE/NGL) HAUTALA Heidi (Verts/ALE) BORRELLI David (EFDD)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	AGUILERA Clara (S&D)	08/03/2017

Council of the European Union

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
		COM(2016)0771	

05/12/2016	Preparatory document		
15/02/2017	Legislative proposal published	05530/2017	Summary
15/05/2017	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
11/07/2017	Vote in committee		
14/07/2017	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A8-0257/2017	Summary
13/09/2017	Debate in Parliament		
14/09/2017	Decision by Parliament	T8-0352/2017	Summary
14/09/2017	Results of vote in Parliament		
09/10/2017	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
09/10/2017	End of procedure in Parliament		
14/12/2017	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2016/0383(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 207-p4 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p7 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6a
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	INTA/8/08725

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE604.625	09/06/2017	
Committee opinion	AGRI	PE602.946	20/06/2017	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE606.285	23/06/2017	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A8-0257/2017	14/07/2017	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T8-0352/2017	14/09/2017	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	05530/2017	15/02/2017	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	05551/2017	15/02/2017	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Preparatory document	COM(2016)0771	05/12/2016	Summary

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Decision 2017/2307 OJ L 331 14.12.2017, p. 0001	Summary

EU/Chile Agreement: trade in organic products

2016/0383(NLE) - 05/12/2016

PURPOSE: to conclude an Agreement between the Union and Chile on trade in organic products.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if the European Parliament has approved it.

BACKGROUND: the Council of the Union encouraged the Commission to improve the current mechanisms to facilitate international trade in organic products and require reciprocity and transparency in any trade agreement.

On 16 June 2014 the Council authorised the Commission to negotiate agreements between the EU and third countries on trade in organic products.

On the basis of the Council's negotiating directives, the Commission has negotiated with Chile an agreement reciprocally recognising the equivalence of the respective organic production rules and control systems as regards certain products.

CONTENT: the Commission proposes that the Council adopt a decision regarding the conclusion of the **agreement between the European Union and Chile on trade in organic products.**

The Agreement aims at **fostering trade in organic products**, thereby contributing to the development and expansion of the organic sector in the Union and in Chile, and achieving a high level of respect for the principles of organic production rules, for guarantee of the control systems and integrity of organic products. The protection of the respective organic logos should also be improved.

The Agreement also aims at enhancing regulatory cooperation between the Parties on issues related to organic production.

Equivalence agreement: in the Agreement, the Union and Chile recognise the equivalence of their rules on organic production and control systems as regards organic products. The equivalence agreement will allow for **products produced and controlled according to EU rules to be directly placed on the Chilean market** and vice versa. It will also provide for a system of **co-operation, exchange of information and dispute settlement** in organic trade.

Chile will recognise as equivalent all Union's organic products included in the scope of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007, namely:

- unprocessed plant products;
- live animals or unprocessed animal products (including honey);
- aquaculture products and seaweeds;
- processed agricultural products for use as food (including wine);
- processed agricultural products for use as feed;
- vegetative propagating material and seeds for cultivation.

The Union will recognise as equivalent the following products from Chile:

- unprocessed plant products;
- honey;
- processed agricultural products for use as food (including wine);
- vegetative propagating material and seeds for cultivation.

The Agreement also provides that:

- **Chilean production rules for animal products other than apiculture as well as feed were not found equivalent** and could possibly only be recognised as equivalent at a later stage, once Chile develops its legislation for these products;
- Chile recognises the Union's **organic aquaculture products and seaweeds**;
- **processed agricultural products for use as food** that have been processed in Chile must use Chilean organically grown ingredients or ingredients imported to Chile either from the Union or from a third country recognised as equivalent.

Implementation of the Agreement: the **Joint Committee** on Organic Products, established by the Agreement, will deal with certain aspects of its implementation. In particular, the Joint Committee has the power to amend the list of products set out in Annex I or II to the Agreement. The Commission will represent the Union in the Joint Committee.

The Commission is **empowered to approve amendments to the list of products** set out in Annex I or II, subject to giving prior information to Member States. In addition, it is empowered to **unilaterally suspend the recognition of equivalence**, subject to prior information to Member States to allow for a timely reaction in case conditions for equivalence are not met anymore.

Where representatives of Member States representing a **blocking minority** object to the position presented by the Commission, the Commission should not be allowed to approve amendments to the list of products set out in Annex I or II, nor to suspend the recognition of equivalence. In such cases, the Commission should present a proposal for a Council decision, on the basis of Article 218 (9) of the Treaty.

EU/Chile Agreement: trade in organic products

2016/0383(NLE) - 14/09/2017 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 556 votes to 73, with 4 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Chile on trade in organic products.

Following the recommendation of its Committee on International Trade and the opinion of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, the European Parliament **approved** the conclusion of the Agreement.

The Agreement aims to promote trade in organic products by contributing to the development and expansion of the organic sector in the EU and Chile and to achieving a high level of compliance with the principles of organic production, control systems and integrity of biological products.

Under the terms of the Agreement, the Union and Chile will recognise as equivalent all EU organic production and their control systems with regard to organic products.

EU/Chile Agreement: trade in organic products

2016/0383(NLE) - 09/10/2017 - Final act

PURPOSE: to conclude the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Chile on trade in organic products.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Decision (EU) 2017/2307 on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Chile on trade in organic products.

CONTENT: by this Decision, the Agreement between the European Union and Chile on trade in organic products is hereby approved on behalf of the Union.

In addition to fostering trade in organic products, the Agreement envisages the following actions:

- expansion of the organic sector in the EU and Chile;
- achieving a high level of respect for the principles of organic production, of guarantee of the control systems and of integrity of organic products;
- improved protection of the respective organic logos of the Union and Chile;
- enhanced regulatory cooperation between the Parties on issues related to organic production.

Equivalence agreement: the Union and Chile shall recognise the equivalence of their respective rules on organic production and control systems as regards organic products.

Joint committee: the Joint Committee on Organic Products established pursuant to the Agreement, deals with certain aspects of the implementation of the Agreement. In particular, it has the power to amend the lists of products in Annexes I and II to the Agreement. The Commission should be authorised to represent the Union in the Joint Committee.

The Commission should be empowered to approve amendments to the lists of products in Annexes I and II to the Agreement, on the condition that it inform the representatives of the Member States. It should also be empowered to unilaterally suspend the recognition of equivalence, on the condition that it inform the representatives of the Member States prior to doing so.

In cases where representatives of the Member States representing a blocking minority object to the position presented by the Commission, the Commission should not be allowed to approve amendments to the lists of products in Annexes I and II or to suspend the recognition of equivalence. In such cases, the Commission should present a proposal for a Council decision on the basis of Article 218(9) of the Treaty.

The Agreement also provides for a system of **co-operation, exchange of information and dispute settlement** in organic trade.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 01.01.2018.

EU/Chile Agreement: trade in organic products

2016/0383(NLE) - 15/02/2017 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Chile on trade in organic products.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: in accordance with a Council Decision, the Agreement between the European Union and Chile on trade in organic products was signed, subject to its conclusion.

The Agreement aims at **fostering trade in organic products**, contributing to the development and expansion of the organic sector in the Union and in Chile and achieving a high level of respect for the principles of organic production.

It is now necessary to approve the Agreement on behalf of the European Union.

CONTENT: with this proposed Council Decision, the Council is called upon to approve, on behalf of the EU, the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Chile on trade in organic products.

In addition to fostering trade in organic products, the Agreement envisages the following actions:

- expansion of the organic sector in the EU and Chile;
- achieving a high level of respect for the principles of organic production, of guarantee of the control systems and of integrity of organic products;
- improved protection of the respective organic logos of the Union and Chile;
- enhanced regulatory cooperation between the Parties on issues related to organic production.

Equivalence agreement: The Union and Chile are called upon to recognise the equivalence of their respective rules on organic production and control systems as regards organic products. Accordingly, the Agreement provides that the products listed in the Annexes shall be mutually recognised as equivalent to the production of one party or the other in accordance with the legislation of one or the other parties.

Joint committee: the Joint Committee on Organic Products established pursuant to the Agreement, deals with certain aspects of the implementation of the Agreement. In particular, it has the power to amend the lists of products in Annexes I and II to the Agreement. The Commission should be authorised to represent the Union in the Joint Committee.

The Commission should be empowered to **approve amendments to the lists of products** in Annexes I and II to the Agreement, on the condition that it inform the representatives of the Member States. It should also be empowered to unilaterally **suspend the recognition of equivalence**, on the condition that it inform the representatives of the Member States prior to doing so.

In cases where representatives of the Member States representing a **blocking minority** object to the position presented by the Commission, the Commission should not be allowed to approve amendments to the lists of products in Annexes I and II or to suspend the recognition of equivalence. In such cases, the Commission should present a proposal for a Council decision on the basis of Article 218(9) of the Treaty.

EU/Chile Agreement: trade in organic products

2016/0383(NLE) - 14/07/2017 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on International Trade adopted the report by Inmaculada RODRÍGUEZ-PIÑERO FERNÁNDEZ (S&D, ES) on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Chile on trade in organic products.

The committee recommended the European Parliament to **give its consent** to the conclusion of the agreement.

As a reminder, the above-mentioned agreement, aims at ‘fostering trade in organic products, contributing to the development and expansion of the organic sector in the Union and in the Republic of Chile and achieving a high level of respect for the principles of organic production, of guarantee of the control systems and of integrity of organic products’.

By means of the agreement, Chile will recognise as equivalent all EU organic products included in the scope of Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 on organic production and labelling of organic products.

While supporting the objectives of the Commission proposal and the draft Council Decision, the INTA Rapporteur recalled the need to fully **inform Parliament throughout the lifecycle of international agreements**, negotiation and implementation.

In this context, the Rapporteur regretted the lack of timely information by other institutions during the negotiations of the present Agreement, and expected the Council and the Commission to redress the situation.